Peer Review for the Interim Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Region

The Peer Review Team (Team) consisted of Nancy Holzhauser, Robert Huffman, Greg Johnson, Dyanne Sheldon, and Kathy Verble. Two additional team members were unable to participate due to scheduling and time constraints. Team members were selected for their experience and expertise in identifying and delineating wetlands and to form a representative team that would be able to address the topographic and climate diversity across the Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Region. Applicants who were not selected for the Team were notified by either email or phone.

The Team met through a series of eight conference calls. Individual comments made by team members were discussed and where possible, a consensus made. Otherwise, individual points of view were documented. The team and/or individual comments are in the attached spreadsheets, which are divided into general document comments and specific chapter comments.

The Team's task was to review the draft supplement for technical feasibility of the indicators and procedures. However, we found that sometimes the content of a paragraph or section was unclear or incomplete and, thus, clouded the intent or confused the reader. Since the purpose of the Regional Supplement is to provide technical guidance, we felt it crucial that the document be clear and comprehensive as possible for the intended users. Therefore, we have included editing comments to that effect.

The Team would like to thank the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the opportunity to assist in the development of a guidance document that considers regional variability and utilizes current knowledge and practices.

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